BENGALURU, SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 16 Pages PRICE ₹4

Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

TEMP Max 26 | Min 20 | Humidity 74% Mostly Cloudy Sensex 82,365 | Nifty 25,235 | Gold 71,997 | Silver 84,443 | Dollar 83.84 | Euro 92.76 | GBP 110.16

CANINE CHECK

Lokayukta takes up suo motu case after dog attack death in city, asks BBMP to prepare action plan on managing stray population

PAGE 2

SLOPPY ROAD

Service road made just two years ago near B'luru-Mysuru Expressway already filled with potholes, debris and gravel, making it a risky ride

PAGE 6

17-18 two-wheeler thefts reported in city daily, but absence of advanced tech makes tracking these stolen vehicles particularly tough — time to install GPS systems on bikes?

UNEASY RIDERS

'Improper parking gives thieves easy opportunities'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

On the one hand, as the number of two-wheelers rises in the city, it is also witnessing around 17 to 18 two-wheeler thefts on a daily basis. As the hum of Bengaluru's traffic continues unabated, here is a number that is quietly creeping up: 3,263 theft cases have been reported till July 31, 2024, of which only 779 of those detected.

For many in Bengaluru, two-wheelers are more than just a mode of transport, they are a lifeline. Whether it's a college student rushing to class, a delivery worker navigating narrow lanes, or a family relying on a single vehicle to commute, the theft of these bikes and scooters can be devastating. Despite this, the rise in two-wheeler thefts has been met with frustration both by vehicle owners and law enforcement.

Police officials, burdened with the challenge of tracing stolen vehicles, find themselves at a significant disadvantage. Unlike cars, which are equipped with various security features like alarms, immobilisers, and GPS tracking systems, two-wheelers have traditionally been more vulnerable. The relatively smaller size and simpler design of motorcycles and scooters make them easier targets for thieves.

The police department is working to combat this growing menace, but the challenges remain. While they have CCTV footage to analyse and informants to gather information about theft, the lack of security systems on most two-wheelers makes it difficult to track stolen vehicles.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

PAGE 3: TOWING IS BACK

> **"Every other day, a two-wheeler goes missing, and in a month, we see at least 15 disappear from the Whitefield division. Unlike cars, two-wheelers don't come with GPS trackers from the manufacturer, so we rely heavily on CCTV footage to trace stolen bikes**
>
> — Sivakumar Gunare, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Whitefield

Volt jolt

Number of electrical accident deaths in city on decline, but negligence prevails

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In the past two-and-a-half years, Bengaluru has witnessed a troubling rise in electric shock incidents, with 42 fatalities reported due to such accidents. Of these, 35 victims have yet to receive compensation for various reasons.

An analysis of electrical accidents in the Bengaluru Urban District reveals a decline in fatalities over time: in 2022-23, there were 22 deaths and 14 injuries; in 2023-24, the numbers fell to 15 deaths and 20 injuries; and in the first half of 2024, there were five deaths and four injuries.

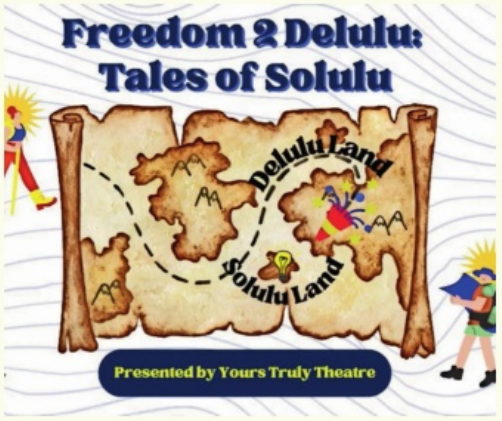
The data also indicates a reduction in animal deaths from four in 2022-23 to none by mid-2024.

A source said, "Public negligence, particularly in relation to Bengaluru's electricity infrastructure, remains a significant concern. The Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) and the government are actively addressing these issues through initiatives such as Electric Safety Week and awareness campaigns on social media platforms. Despite these efforts, accidents continue to occur, largely due to public carelessness."

According to the source, many accidents

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

3 THINGS TO DO



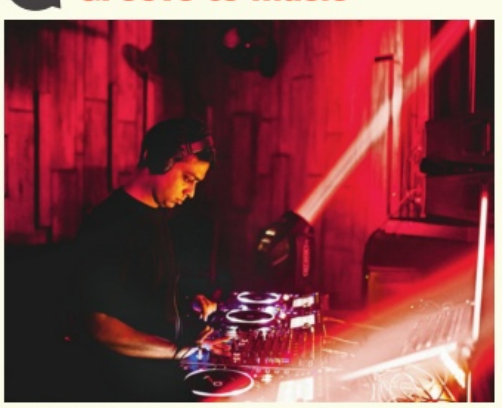
01 Improv show

Watch an Improv show "Freedom 2 Delulu: Tales of Solulu." The show explores some insane and experimental theatrical formats with a variety of stories in the loop. With Independence Day just behind us, we will use some fun theatrical performances to take a calculated look at our freedoms, delulus, and solulus. Join in to try and figure it out and celebrate our freedoms with a hint of delusions and solutions. **Where: Yours Truly Theatre, Indiranagar; When: August 31, 6 pm**

02 Morning melodies

Immerse yourself in the delightful musical journey with a Hindustani vocal recital, 'Morning Raag' with Priya Purushothaman. The raga tradition in Hindustani music follows a system of time cycles in which raagas are prescribed to be sung at specific times of the day. This concert will feature special khayal repertoire that is sung in the early morning hours. **Where: Jagriti Theatre, Whitefield; When: September 1, 7 am**

03 Groove to music



This Saturday, get your dancing boots on and groove to the electrifying beats at this setting. Join in and vibe to the energy as Caged is back at Indiranagar Social for yet another intimate party with an eclectic lineup featuring Chaz, Vedik & more. **Where: Indiranagar Social When: August 31, 8 pm onwards**

Old schools get 1-year grant for accreditation renewal

Education dept's move is temporary fix: associations ask for 10-year grant by next year to schools established before 2017-18

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School management boards have requested more time to submit the required certificates and documents for renewal of accreditation for schools established before 2017-18. In response, the education department has allowed these schools an additional year to gather and submit the necessary paperwork, along with an affidavit on Rs 100 stamp paper, as part of their renewal application, according to an official. "If these conditions are met and the application is submitted online, the schools will receive conditional accreditation for one year, applicable only for the 2024–25 academic year," said an official.

As per the latest circular, the department announced that private aided and unaided schools must apply online for accreditation renewal for the 2024-25 academic year by September 30.

Reacting to this, D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary of the Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools in Karnataka, said, "In June, we requested a one-year temporary renewal of accreditation, and the education department granted it. However, this marks the third consecutive year that the accreditation is only for a one-year period, which is just a temporary fix. We have been consistently demanding a permanent solution. With High Court judgements in our favour, we urge the education department to make a decision swiftly. Specifically, for schools established before 2017-18, factors like fire safety, land conversion, PWD clearance, construction quality, and plan approval, along with the High Court rulings, should be taken into account. We should be granted a 10-year accreditation, and we hope this can be achieved by next year."

Previously, school associations challenged an education department order that enforced old regulations for the establishment of new schools and the renewal of accreditation for private unaided institutions. The HC annulled this order in its verdict on November 14, 2022. Additionally, there is an ongoing interim order regarding land conversion. Due to the delay in the government's response to the court's decision, many schools are at risk of losing their accreditation. The schools had previously requested the government to issue a special order allowing temporary or one-year conditional approval for the AYs-2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23.

'This marks the third consecutive year that the accreditation is only for a one-year period, which is just a temporary fix'

Set up composite skill labs: CBSE

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has instructed schools to establish composite skill labs as part of their curriculum. This directive aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), which stress the importance of skill education for students, particularly those in classes VI to X.

Board's Director (Skill Education) Biswajit Saha said, "The goal is to ensure students gain practical skills alongside their traditional academic studies. However, it has been observed that many schools currently lack the necessary facilities and equipment to offer effective hands-on training. In response, during the 139th meeting of the Board's Governing Body, it was decided that all CBSE-affiliated schools must establish a 'Composite Skill Lab' equipped with the necessary tools and machinery. Schools have been advised to set up either one lab of 600 sq ft for classes VI–XII or two separate labs of 400 sq ft each, one for classes VI–X and the other for classes XI–XII."

Dog bite death: Officials summoned to Lokayukta

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The officials of the Animal Husbandry Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) were summoned by Karnataka Lokayukta for a personal appearance on Friday in connection with the recent dog bite incident at the Air Force Campus in Jalahalli leading to the death of a 76-year-old woman. The Lokayukta office informed BM that a suo motu case in the public interest has been filed concerning the incident on Wednesday. "...In this regard, the Zonal Commissioner, Joint Commissioner, and Assistant Director of BBMP's Animal Husbandry Department were asked to appear before Lokayukta. Instructions have been given to the officials to take necessary preventive measures to ensure such incidents are not repeated."

BBMP has also been instructed to prepare an action plan clarifying steps that will be taken to manage the street dog population to ensure such incidents do not occur in the future. "The next hearing of the case is on September 20. The Animal Husbandry department is expected to submit a detailed report on the incidents and plan to the Lokayukta office," said a BBMP official.

In the meeting, Karnataka Lokayukta underlined that this is not the first time an untoward incident involving street dogs has taken place in the city. In various similar cases in the past, victims have also approached the High Court. "A possibility of involving the Veterinary College in Hebbal to come up with a comprehensive solution document to the street dog issue was also discussed. BBMP officials have also been asked to furnish details on the number of Animal Birth Control surgeries that have happened in the city over the last year and are suggested to consider the option of keeping habitual biters in a shelter environment," said an official.

City-based animal welfare workers say an infirmary or a shelter for habitual biters will ensure a safer environment for both humans and animals. "BBMP must consider investing in a rehabilitation centre for street dogs that have a history of multiple bad bites. It should focus on picking up dogs with such a history and evaluating them with the help of a behaviorist. If found to be a misfit to be in a social environment and on the street, these dogs should be shifted to a shelter home," said a city-based animal welfare worker.

18 dogs captured

So far, 18 dogs have been captured from the Air Force Campus after the bite incident. "We are waiting for the autopsy report to ascertain the cause of death. The investigation is ongoing, and all the dogs are under observation. All the animals caught will also be neutered and vaccinated," said a senior BBMP official.

Mind where you park: Towing is back in town

Traffic police back to old ways, to begin with only around Freedom Park's no-parking zones

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KAUSHIK JN

City police officials are towing the two-wheelers parked in no-parking zones around Freedom Park on Friday

The persistent challenge of enforcing parking regulations and managing traffic in the Freedom Park area has called for the towing of vehicles. Towing operations have resumed in the city, but for now, they are limited to the Upparpet limits. City police have started towing vehicles that were illegally parked in no-parking zones around Freedom Park on Friday.

A senior police official told Bangalore Mirror that despite the availability of parking on both sides of the area, many people continue to park in no-parking zones, worsening congestion. "Due to the increasing congestion, we received orders from the commissioner's office to tow vehicles parked in no-parking areas, and we have started enforcing this directive," the official said.

Police said that even with no-parking signs installed on roads like Kalidasa Road and Gandhi Nagar 1st Main Road, drivers continue to park on the streets, flouting the rules.

Following a series of controversies related to towing, it was banned during the Basavaraj Bommai regime. However, now, even the BJP MLAs have been demanding the Congress government to restart towing. During the recent Assembly session, Yelahanka MLA SR Vishwanath urged the Home Minister to restart towing, stating that it was necessary to bring discipline on roads, claiming that many are parking on roads as there was no fear of towing and they are not bothered about the traffic challans.

Parking in the Gandhinagar area was officially prohibited to redirect vehicles to the newly opened multi-storey parking facility at Freedom Park and ease congestion in areas like Gandhi Nagar and Majestic.

BangaloreMirror

Why risk fines when spacious lot awaits?

Freedom Park parking lot elicits poor response; BBMP, cops join hands to curb roadside parking

BM's story on Aug 29 narrates the officials actions to curb illegal parking in areas near the Freedom Park parking lot

Although it has a capacity of 219 cars on its first floor, it is far from reaching full occupancy, as reported on Thursday's BM story, 'Why risk fines when spacious lot awaits?' The upper floors are also significantly underutilised, with daily usage averaging only 30-35 cars and 15-20 bikes. In total, only 120-150 cars and less than 10 bikes have utilised the facility during this period.

An official said, "Towing is essential to maintain order and ensure smooth traffic flow in congested areas. Despite the availability of designated parking spaces, many drivers continue to park in restricted zones, leading to traffic bottlenecks and disruptions. Our goal is not just to penalise but to encourage responsible parking behaviour. By towing vehicles that violate parking rules, we are reinforcing the importance of adhering to regulations, which ultimately benefits everyone. It's a necessary step to reduce chaos on the roads and make our city's traffic management more efficient and safer for all."

Reaction to the move

However, motorists are not happy with towing. According to Aniket K, a college student, towing creates unnecessary stress and inconvenience for vehicle owners, especially in a city where parking spaces are already limited. "...Many drivers are forced to park in no-parking zones because there simply aren't enough accessible and affordable parking options. Instead of towing, which feels punitive, the focus should be on improving parking infrastructure and offering better alternatives. Towing doesn't solve the root problem—it just adds to the frustration of daily commuters who are trying to navigate an already challenging situation."

Drugs seized in post parcel

In a significant crackdown on narcotics trafficking, the Anti-Narcotics Squad of Bangalore City's Central Crime Branch (CCB) on Monday arrested a woman in Bellandur on charges of smuggling hydro ganja, a highly potent form of cannabis, from Thailand. Officials seized 570 grams of the banned substance along with other items valued at Rs 25 lakhs, which were cleverly hidden within a seemingly innocent parcel.

The arrested woman has been identified as Lijina Suresh, a 28-year-old native of Kerala who has been residing in Konappana Agrahara area since 2018 and working as a speech therapist. Acting on a tip-off, the team of officials intercepted a suspicious parcel at the Carmelaram Post Office on Sarjapura Main Road. Investigations revealed that the smuggling was orchestrated by an individual known as Sahad, alias Kutta, who is currently on the run. The CCB has intensified its efforts to apprehend Sahad and any other accomplices involved in the drug ring. The investigation continues to uncover more details about the drug syndicate.

37 held in fake files scam

As part of a broader investigation into a fraudulent network that helped candidates cheat their way into government jobs, 37 candidates have been arrested for submitting forged documents to secure coveted positions in the Water Resources Department.

The scam traces back to October 2022, when the WRD invited applications for 182 'C' Group II Assistant backlog posts. In a brazen attempt to bypass the selection criteria, 62 candidates from 12 districts in Karnataka submitted fake IIPUC and equivalent NIOS mark sheets that showcased inflated scores in each subject. The ruse might have gone undetected if not for the meticulous verification by the department, whereby the case was handed over to CCB for further investigation. Among those arrested were three government employees who had been moonlighting as intermediaries in the scam. Officials also seized 17 mobile phones, two Kia cars, and a computer hard disk used in the crime.

KSPCB's big task: Smokers litter, make bakery owner pay

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Based on a Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) officer's complaint, a bakery owner was fined Rs 5,000 by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Solid Waste Management Inspector Naveen Kumar for littering of cigarette butts on the road by the customers/smokers, which is ironical to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines, which state that littering cigarette butts is prohibited and local bodies are authorised to impose a penalty of Rs 500 on anyone who is found to do so without any objections. The KSPCB has recommended enforcing CPCB guidelines for the disposal of cigarette butts.

According to the documents available with BM, the KSPCB Environmental Officer received a complaint by Satish, a resident, on August 17. The environmental officer of Rajarajeshwari Nagar, KSPCB Regional Office (situated in Shivajinagar), wrote a letter to senior health officer Harsha Layout, Kengeri, to take suitable action against the owner of Krishna Bakery situated on Sun City Road. "We have inspected Krishna Bakery on August 19 and found the owner selling beedis and cigarettes. We found smokers littering cigarette butts on the road. It has become a public nuisance. You are advised to take suitable action against the bakery," the letter by the Environment Officer read.

'A fine of Rs 500 is imposed on anyone littering cigarette butts'

Residents of the area wonder how the BBMP SWM Inspector penalised the bakery owner instead of punishing those responsible for littering cigarette butts and what has made the KSPCB environment officer focus on this issue instead of taking measures to relocate or upgrade the electric crematorium situated just a few hundred meters away from the said bakery. "The BBMP SWM inspector threatened the bakery owner to impose a penalty of Rs 10,000 and also close it, but we objected to it. Finally, he imposed a penalty of Rs 5,000," said a resident.

A resident stated that imposing a penalty on the bakery owner is like penalising the liquor shop owner for selling liquor instead of penalising a two-wheeler rider or a motorist responsible for drink and drive. "I suspect the KSPCB environment officer's integrity for focussing on the complaint lodged by one of the residents. I am not supporting the bakery owner but not able to digest the speed with which the officers acted on this matter," said a resident.

When contacted, BBMP SWM Inspector Naveen Kumar said that he followed the instructions of higher authorities and said, "The surroundings of the bakery were not clean and neat. I found cigarette butts littered on the road."

This brings us to a question: Have residents of Bengaluru ever come across a KSPCB officer acting on a complaint within two days after receiving it from the public? It is now over to the KSPCB authorities to throw some light on it.

Farming, best rewinding option for Bengalureans

Weekend travel is a familiar routine for many, but an increasing number of Bengalureans are now embracing farming as a weekend activity. Many are opting to own, lease, or hire farmland to escape their hectic city lives and enjoy a refreshing break in the countryside. In fact, during recent years, investing in farmland has become a prominent trend among Bengalureans, driven by a combination of lifestyle aspirations, financial considerations, and the allure of rural tranquility. This shift reflects a broader movement where urban residents are seeking to balance their city life with investments that promise both personal satisfaction and potential financial returns.

Subhash Kashyap, who promotes farm lands said, "For many Bengalureans, farmland represents more than just an investment—it's an opportunity to reconnect with nature, enjoy a peaceful retreat from the city, and participate in the agricultural economy. As real estate prices in Bengaluru soar, farmland offers a more affordable alternative for those looking to invest in property. Additionally, post COVID-19 pandemic, the interest in rural retreats has increased as people seek out less crowded, more serene environments. Moreover, it offers practical benefits, such as potential income from agricultural activities or leasing the land."

Several factors are driving Bengalureans to invest in farmland. "Firstly, the desire for a second home in a tranquil setting is a significant motivator. I was looking for a place where I could escape the city on weekends. The idea of having my own space where I can grow my own vegetables and enjoy a peaceful environment was very appealing. It's also a great way to diversify my investments. Secondly, there is a growing interest in sustainable living and organic farming. Investors are increasingly motivated by the opportunity to engage in environmentally friendly practices and contribute to local food production," said Prithvi Kumari D, a homemaker.

Many are also showing interest in organic farming and sustainable agriculture. "Our clients are looking for properties that can be easily accessed from the city but provide a genuine escape into nature. Some buyers are looking for large plots that can be developed into hobby farms, while others are interested in smaller plots for personal use or agricultural ventures. Whether driven by a desire for a rural retreat, an interest in sustainable living, or financial considerations, many are finding that farmland offers a unique and rewarding opportunity. As the market continues to grow, both investors and developers are adapting to meet the evolving needs of those seeking to reconnect with nature and diversify their portfolios," added Subhash.

— Prakash VL

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Loose gravel and flying dust: Unsafe ride on Mysore Road

Service road between Raja Rajeshwari Medical College and Christ University, managed by NHAI, is filled with craters that can cause mishaps

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KAUSHIK JN

Potholes, loose gravel, broken fence and stray cattle litter the service road

Caution is needed for two-wheeler riders on the service road between Raja Rajeshwari Medical College and Christ University on Mysore Road. The gravel, sand, and accumulated dust create a dangerous situation for unwary two-wheeler riders.

The service road, managed by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), which built the expressway between Bengaluru and Mysuru, is in a disappointing state. It's disheartening to find potholes and gravel on a road that was asphalted just a year ago."It is not safe for two-wheeler riders to commute on this road. The road is in bad condition. I urge the authorities concerned to fix it without delay because two-wheeler vehicles often skid due to the loose gravel on the road," said a college student on the condition of anonymity.

Demanding the authorities to remove the accumulated dust and sand on the road, Peter J, a two-wheeler rider, said the condition of the road remained poor for many months but the authorities did nothing to mitigate the problems. "It may not cost more money to clear the accumulated sand and dust and fill up potholes. It will greatly help motorists, especially for two-wheeler riders, who depend on this road to reach workplaces and educational institutions," said Peter.

In addition to the poor condition of the road, individuals from nearby villages have broken the fence installed along the road to prevent pedestrians from crossing. "Some people have created a shortcut path by removing a portion of the fence to reach the other side of the road. They are in a hurry to reach their destinations and not bothered about the danger of crossing the busy road," said a two-wheeler rider.

Expressing a similar opinion, Madhusudhan R, a student, said that he finds it difficult to commute on the road because of garbage, stray cattle, and potholes. "A few stretches of the road are damaged. The authorities have yet to remove the damaged fence that has been lying on the road for quite a long time. I appeal to the authorities to asphalt the road and replace the broken fence to prevent people from crossing the busy road," said Madhusudhan.

Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation highlighted a serious flaw in the design and quality of the roads. He emphasised that roads should be constructed with clear signage and barricades to ensure pedestrians are kept away from fast-moving traffic and remain safe. "Intersections, junctions, and merging points must be well-designed and equipped with bright signage visible both day and night. This is the entrance to the super-fast Mysuru highway, and it is currently in poor condition," he said. NHAI Engineer, Arun B commented that he would take measures to repair the road and restore the fence. "Some people are dumping garbage on the road. I urge the municipal authorities to remove garbage and ensure no dumping on the road," he said.

Bangalore Mirror's story "Live on fast lane" reveals how hundreds of students risk crossing the hazardous Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway. The report, published on August 3, 2024, highlights that agencies involved have neglected to build a skywalk or pedestrian subway near Christ University Kengeri Campus.

> **"Some people have removed a portion of the fence to reach the other side of the road. They are not bothered about the danger of crossing busy road** – Commuter

Basic locking systems child's play for thieves

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On August 25, Varthur Police conducted a successful operation on Muthsandra Road, arresting a notorious two-wheeler thief and recovered 12 stolen vehicles valued at Rs 9 lakh. The investigation was triggered by a complaint from a Rama Layout resident on July 23, reporting the theft of a two-wheeler. Through detailed investigation, the police identified the accused, who confessed to stealing vehicles across Bengaluru City, Rural, and Kollegala. Additional interrogation led to the recovery of 11 more stolen two-wheelers from a Nilgiri grove in Soorhunise, Varthur. These vehicles were linked to theft cases in Baiyappanahalli, HSR Layout, Tilak Nagar, Madiwala, Parappana Agrahara, and Sarjapur police stations, resolving seven cases, while four remain under investigation.

"Every other day, a two-wheeler goes missing, and in a month, we see at least 15 disappear from the Whitefield division. Unlike cars, two-wheelers don't come with GPS trackers from the manufacturer, so we rely heavily on CCTV footage to trace stolen bikes. While motorists are willing to spend on stickers and other accessories for vehicles, it's crucial that they also invest in GPS tracker chips for their own vehicle's safety," said Deputy Commissioner of Police, Whitefield Dr. Sivakumar Gunare.

Many citizens, desperate for a solution, resorted to installing basic security measures like disc locks or chain locks on their two-wheelers. However, these measures were often inadequate, as determined thieves could easily bypass them. Some even tried to install GPS trackers, but the cost and the complexity of installation were prohibitive for many. "Back in 2016, we saw a lot of two-wheeler thefts, with Bullet bikes being the most targeted. Nowadays, it's not just Bullets but also other bikes that are frequently stolen," said an official.

"Often, improper parking gives thieves an easy opportunity to strike, especially when people staying in paying guest accommodations have to park outside due to a lack of space inside the gates. The government should take the initiative to require manufacturers to install GPS trackers in two-wheelers during production," said a police official.

The lack of a standard security system in two-wheelers is a glaring issue that manufacturers and policymakers need to address. The introduction of GPS trackers in all two-wheelers could be a game-changer, providing vehicle owners with peace of mind and law enforcement with a crucial tool in the fight against theft.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

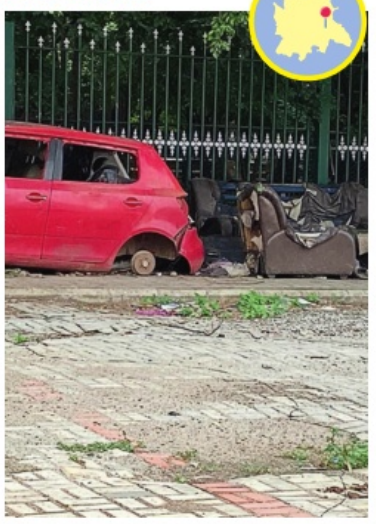
Blocked drainage

Nagarbhavi

The drainage system at No. 722, 2nd Main, 2nd Stage, 11th Block, Nagarbhavi, is blocked, leading to rainwater flooding residential properties. Residents are using the area for parking, and drainage stones have been misused to obstruct the water flow.

Parked junk

Coles Park



An old car and sofa set have been abandoned near Coles Park for a long time.

Drain issue

Janata Bazar

The section of Kempegowda Main Road in front of Pothys is damaged, with water constantly flowing into the drain near Janata Bazar.

NGT questions mining plan near 1,200-year-old temple

Activists argue that proposed project threatens environment and structural integrity of historic site in Sandur, citing concerns about potential pollution and habitat destruction

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NGT principal bench issued notices to Karnataka's Department of Mines and Geology, KSPCB, MoEF

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued notices to various government agencies following a recommendation by the state government to the Central Environment Ministry for initial approval to mine near a 1,200-year-old temple in Sandur, Ballari district.

The principal bench of the tribunal issued notices after it took suo motu cognizance of the issue based on a new report. Legal notices have been sent to the Department of Mines and Geology Karnataka, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), and the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Karnataka.

NGT has also summoned the District Magistrate, Ballari, Central Pollution Control Board, and Archaeological Survey of India, citing lack of compliance with provisions of the Environment Protection Act, 1986, and Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

The temple is a protected monument by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and is believed to have been built in the 7 or 8 century CE.

"The news item highlights that the government's decision to grant clearance for mining near the temple was made possible after the withdrawal of a 1978 notification that prohibited mining within a 2 km radius of protected monuments. The proximity of the mining operations, which involves heavy machinery and blasting, threatens the structural integrity of the temple," noted the principal bench of NGT.

> **The forest in the region has been ravaged due to rampant mining activities. But the govt has overlooked recommendations**
>
> –Conservationist

The NGT noted that objections from activists and citizens in August 2023 led to a Karnataka High Court petition, which resulted in an expert committee being formed to assess the mining project's impact on the temple and its surroundings.

"Before the committee could finalise its findings, the Department of Mines and Geology decided to restrict mining to 600 metres from the temple. This decision was seen by activists as a move to bypass the expert committee's recommendations, as the committee had only submitted a preliminary report highlighting the environmental risks but not yet determining the structural safety of the temple," noted NGT in its order.

MoEF&CC also raised an objection

After the state government requested approval in May 2024 to divert 28.299 ha for mining, the Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) asked for additional documents. MoEF&CC noted that no mining can occur within 600 meters of the Karthikeya & Parvathi temple, as per the ASI report.

"Accordingly, the State Govt has recommended that FC proposal may be processed for the extent of 28.299 ha for approach road and 26.699 ha (i.e. 18.989 ha for mining purposes + 7.71 ha area, which falls within 600 meters from the Karthikeya & Parvathi temple). In this regard, revised land use change in the approved mining plan is required," noted the letter.

Wildlife conservationists say the state government has been reckless in proposing projects that can prove detrimental to the environment and biodiversity of the area.

"Sandur, although not part of the Western Ghats ecosystem, is home to multiple perennial and seasonal streams. So much so that the Karnataka Forest Department wrote to the state a few years ago, advocating sustainable mining in the region. The forest in the region has been ravaged due to rampant mining activities. But the government has overlooked these recommendations,"said a wildlife conservationist.

BMTC digital passes

Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation is introducing digital passes from September 15. The transport corporation will offer daily, weekly, and monthly passes in a fully digital format, enhancing convenience for passengers through cashless and contactless transactions. "With the new digital system, purchasing passes is straightforward and accessible via the BMTC mobile app. To get started, users need to download the Tummoc app from the Play Store and complete the registration process. After logging in, they can select the type of pass they need, i.e., daily, weekly, or monthly, enter the required details, and upload a photo. Once the pass is selected and payment is processed, the digital pass is generated and ready for use. Passengers using digital passes should remember to carry a valid ID card while travelling. To verify the pass's validity, they can simply scan the QR code displayed on the bus using their mobile phones," said a release.

New BESCOM payment rules

According to Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission regulations, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited will disconnect electricity for consumers who either do not pay their bills within 30 days or fail to provide the necessary additional security deposit.

BESCOM will enforce KERC regulations from September 1, 2024. All domestic and commercial consumers, apartments, and temporary connections must pay bills within 30 days to avoid disconnection on the meter reading day. Starting September 1, linemen will accompany meter readers on their initial visit and immediately disconnect the electricity supply of consumers with overdue bills. A period of 15 days is provided for electricity bill payments until the due date without interest. An additional 15-day grace period is available for payments with interest after the due date. If the bill remains unpaid, the electricity supply will be disconnected.

Vulture vigil: Citizen scientists gear up for 2024 Count

Running from Sep 7 to Oct 6, this initiative will track nine vulture species across 20+ locations, including Karnataka's Ramdevarabetta Sanctuary

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Vulture Count is a citizen science initiative aimed at training birdwatchers, wildlife enthusiasts, and photographers to identify and record sightings of nine vulture species across various states. Scheduled from September 7 to October 6, this year's count will coincide with International Vulture Awareness Day on September 7.

Over 20 locations across different states have been selected for the Vulture Count. In Karnataka, the chosen site is Ramdevarabetta Vulture Sanctuary in Bangalore. Other states participating include Delhi, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chandigarh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Uttarakhand, all of which have reported vulture sightings.

Vultures are said to be essential to the health of ecosystems, serving as nature's clean-up crew. By feeding on carrion, they prevent the spread of diseases that could otherwise affect wildlife, livestock and humans. Their role in consuming decomposing animal carcasses helps with nutrient cycling and maintains ecological balance.

Count will cover key species, including the Bearded vulture

In 2021, volunteers recorded over 362 vulture counts, which increased to 452 in 2022. In 2023, the count surged to over 1,305 vultures, including 693 endangered Egyptian vultures, 409 critically endangered White-rumped vultures, and 176 critically endangered Indian long-tailed vultures. Additionally, 18 near-threatened Himalayan griffons, 4 critically endangered Red-headed vultures, 3 critically endangered Slender-billed vultures, and 2 Eurasian griffons were recorded.

However, vulture populations in India have faced a dramatic decline due to several threats, including the ingestion of toxic non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) like diclofenac, commonly used to treat livestock, as well as habitat loss, electrocution, food scarcity and human disturbances. The alarming drop in vulture numbers has led to some species being classified as Critically Endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

WWF-India, in collaboration with Bird Count India and eBird, will launch Vulture Count 2024 to address the vulture crisis through systematic population monitoring. The initiative aims to gather comprehensive baseline data to track population trends, identify critical habitats, and assess the impact of environmental changes. This information will be crucial for developing targeted conservation strategies and policies. The Count will focus on key vulture species, including the White-rumped vulture, Red-headed vulture, Indian vulture, Bearded vulture, Slender-billed vulture, Himalayan griffon, Eurasian griffon, Egyptian vulture, and Cinereous vulture.

Dr Dipankar Ghose, Senior Director of Biodiversity Conservation, WWF-India said, "Vultures role in the ecosystem is paramount. Vulture Count 2024 represents a significant opportunity for citizen scientists, bird enthusiasts and local communities to contribute to vulture conservation and to increase awareness about them."

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

TWITTY TALKS

Two parrots inquisitively check the tree bark before flying away on an early morning in Bengaluru

The picture was clicked by reader **Vijita Asher**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Expect traffic congestion as Cong plans Raj Bhavan Chalo

Protest aims to express disapproval to Governor Gehlot for sanctioning prosecution of CM in MUDA 'scam' case

If you're traveling near Vidhana Soudha or the Raj Bhavan area, be prepared for traffic congestion on August 31, as the ruling Congress party in Karnataka plans to hold a 'Raj Bhavan Chalo' march. This protest is aimed at expressing their disapproval to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot for what they claim was his sanctioning of an 'illegal order' to prosecute Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in connection with the alleged Mysuru Urban Development Authority site allotment 'scam.'

Home Minister G Parameshwara announced that the party will also organise protests at the district level. The event has been planned by CM Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, who is also the state party president. Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly, and Members of Legislative Council are expected to participate in the agitation. "The decision to hold the march stems from the belief that the permission granted to investigate and prosecute the Chief Minister in the alleged scam was illegitimate, as determined by a cabinet decision. Despite presenting evidence to the Governor, it was ignored, prompting the party to seek legal recourse. While awaiting the court's decision, the Congress feels it is necessary to inform the Governor directly, leading to Saturday's demonstrations," Parameshwara said.

> **"Despite presenting evidence to Governor, it was ignored, party seeks legal refuge** – Home Minister

Deputy CM Shivakumar also mentioned that he had requested an appointment with the Governor on Saturday. According to Congress sources, the CM, Deputy CM, and several ministers plan to meet with Governor Gehlot to discuss pending bills and seek approval for the prosecution of three former Bharatiya Janata Party government ministers.

BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) had protested against CM, demanding his resignation, by going on a eight day padayatra from Bengaluru to Mysuru on August 3, 2024.

— BMB

Various organisations staged a protest against Governor Gehlot for approving prosecution of CM in MUDA scam case, at Freedom Park on Aug 27, 2024

DID YOU KNOW?

Bananas are mildly radioactive because they contain minute levels of naturally occurring radionuclides like potassium-40. A radioactive isotope that releases beta and gamma rays is potassium-40. Radiation exposure of 0.01 millirem (0.1 microsieverts) would result from consuming one banana. There is incredibly little radioactivity here. To put that into perspective, the amount of radiation exposure you get from natural radiation in the environment in the United States each day would require you to eat roughly 100 bananas. Brazil nuts have potassium, just like bananas, but they also absorb a tiny bit of radium from the soil in which they are cultivated. However, you would need to eat ten million bananas in one sitting to die from banana-induced radiation poisoning. This is because the potassium in food is excreted in urine to maintain homeostasis, so the dose is not cumulative.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Share a favourite memory associated with the Bengaluru weather or a specific season

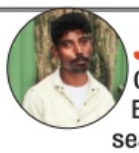
Krishna Murthy D, BM Reader
My favourite memory would be that once I visited a friend's room as it was raining and I couldn't get back to my place. We had a very good time and enjoyed ourselves. We also played in the rain.

Suvartha P, BM Reader
The mornings often start with a gentle mist, adding a touch of magic to the cityscape. As the day progresses, the air remains pleasantly cool. The chill weather of December and January brings a refreshing change to Bengaluru.

Prem Vardha, BM Reader
The onset of monsoon in Bengaluru is a truly magical experience. The city, known for its pleasant weather, becomes even more enchanting during the rains. It's a joy to sip on a hot cup of coffee while watching the rain from the balcony.

Prakash R, BM Reader
Winter mornings in Bengaluru have a charm of their own. The city wakes up to a cool breeze and a misty environment, making morning walks a delightful experience. Dewdrops and the warm sun are truly mesmerising.

Deepak P, BM Reader
Summer evenings in Bengaluru are quite pleasant. After a warm day, the city cools down by evening, making it perfect for a stroll in the park. The sight of the setting sun against the city's skyline is breathtaking.



Jagdish B, BM Reader
One of the best things to do in Bengaluru during the winter season is to take a tour of the city. You can explore the city's rich history and culture by visiting landmarks such as the Bangalore Palace, Bull temple, etc.

SPEAK TO US

What historical or heritage site in Bengaluru fascinates you the most, and why?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at WhatsApp us on 9591233247 or mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com

PoP is out, crackdown begins

BBMP begins inspections, stops production of Plaster of Paris idols in city

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KAUSHIK JN

Preparations are on in full swing in the city for Ganeshotsav

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has finally started cracking down on idols made out of plaster of Paris. During inspection, BBMP officials found that idols made using PoP and chemical substances, which are banned by the Government of Karnataka, were being manufactured and sold in a warehouse at Hemmigepura. Following the orders of the higher authorities, the warehouse was sealed, and a notice was issued.

The Forest and Ecology Minister Eshwar Khandre has suggested forming committees led by District Commissioners to curb the environmental pollution caused by PoP Ganesha idols and firecrackers. He noted the widespread use of PoP idols that harm the environment, stressing the need to raise public awareness to protect the environment. "PoP Ganesha idols are made from calcium sulfate hemihydrate powder (a material derived from gypsum) containing sulfur, gypsum, pigments, and magnesium, among other elements. These idols are coated with chemical paints containing cadmium, mercury, arsenic, lead, and carbon. When immersed in rivers, lakes, or ponds, they endanger aquatic life, and can also lead to diseases in humans and animals. Hence, I have advised obtaining undertakings from public Ganesha festival committees, ensuring that they do not worship or immerse PoP Ganesha idols and do not use firecrackers that cause noise and air pollution."

He emphasised that despite the laws, only public awareness can ensure success. He suggested sending messages via WhatsApp groups of various neighborhood welfare associations and using jingle advertisements in waste collection vehicles to raise awareness among the public. Bengaluru has several apartment complexes with 50 to 1,000 or more houses. The Environment Minister also urged the organisations in these complexes to ensure that PoP Ganesha idols are banned. He added that a criminal case has been registered against a unit in Bengaluru that was producing thousands of PpP Ganesha idols. He elaborated that the National Green Tribunal (Principal Bench) has instructed action under Section 33 (A) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, as water sources are being polluted by the immersion of PoP and painted Ganesha idols. Consequently, the government issued this order on September 15, 2023.

BM had reported about presence of PoP idols in city

> **When immersed in rivers, lakes, or ponds, they endanger aquatic life, and can lead to diseases in humans** –Minister

Restrictions on firecrackers

The Supreme Court, in its orders dated October 30, 2010 and October 23, 2018, directed that firecrackers should only be burst between 8 pm and 10 pm and prohibited the use of firecrackers producing more than 125 decibels of sound, as well as the lighting of firecracker strings. The Minister instructed that sellers of firecrackers should compulsorily sell only green firecrackers, obtaining an undertaking to that effect, and granting permission for their sale.

Take note of rules for Ganesha celebrations

In anticipation of the large-scale celebrations, where various groups will install Ganesha idols and conduct processions for the idol's immersion, the city police have outlined several key instructions. Organisers are required to obtain necessary permissions from local police stations before installing Ganesha idols in public spaces. The police officials have urged that installations on roads where public and vehicular traffic could be disrupted will not be allowed under any circumstances. The police have warned against the illegal collection of tolls for Ganesha idol installations and other related events. Permissions from the Bangalore Metropolitan Corporation (BBMP) are mandatory for construction of temporary structures like shamiyanas at public sites.

Environmental and Legal compliance

The police have reiterated that Ganesha idols should not be installed in disputed areas. Organisers must secure permission from the property owner and inform the local police before proceeding. Furthermore, the installation of flexes, boards, and banners is strictly prohibited, in adherence to the High Court's directive.

Vigilance & safety

To maintain order, the police have instructed that two responsible workers from the organising committees must be present at the idol installation sites 24 hours a day. Organisers are also required to install CCTV cameras at these locations, along with fire extinguishers, and clearly display emergency contact numbers, including those of the local police station, fire brigade, and committee members.

In a bid to avoid fire hazard, the police have prohibited storage of flammable materials near the sites. Organisers must also obtain permissions from the BESCOM department for electrical wiring and decorations, as well as NoCs from the fire brigade, traffic police.

Managing the festive crowd

Organisers are responsible for ensuring smooth public movement at the installation sites by arranging adequate lighting and building barricades to control the crowd. The police have also emphasised the need for volunteers to manage the crowd and protect the festival-related infrastructure.

In a stern reminder, the police have made it clear that organisers will be held accountable for any criminal activities or harassment incidents that occur during the idol installations, processions, or related events.

Regulating noise

To minimise noise pollution, particularly for senior citizens, school children, permission/permit should be obtained from the local police to use loudspeakers only from 6 am to 10 pm. The volume must be kept low, and the use of DJ sound systems is forbidden.

— BMB

KAUSHIK JN

Friday fun

Over 100 visually-impaired children along with students of Sankara Eye Hospital participated in an outdoor sport event at United Football Club in Halasuru on Friday. MN Anuchet, IPS, Joint Commissioner of police (traffic) inaugurated the event

Eye pledges on the rise

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There has been a sizable increase in eye donations and now the number of eye pledges have crossed two lakh at the Dr. Rajkumar Eye Bank, which was established back in 1994. Other than lending his name to the eye bank, the legendary actor pledged to donate his eyes. The movement gained momentum with the collection of corneas from Dr. Rajkumar in April 2006 after his demise.

Narayana Nethralaya set up its first state-of-the-art eye bank and since its inception there have been many champions who have willingly come forward to pledge or donate their eyes. According to statistics, the eyes pledged so far are 2.5 lakh and eyes collected are 24,200 with 140 average eyes per month.

Blindness remains a significant challenge in India, with over 2 million people affected by corneal blindness, including 240,000 children. This loss not only limits individuals' ability to lead a normal life but also impacts their confidence, productivity, and emotional well-being.

Founder Chairman of the eye hospital Dr. K Bhujang Shetty, who envisioned a blindness-free society and laid the groundwork for increasing eye donations in Karnataka, by himself donating his eyes after his demise.

> **According to stats, eyes pledged so far are 2.5 lakh and eyes collected are 24,200 with 140 per month**

In 2021 Narayana Nethralaya launched a new eye donation, People who want to sign up to become an eye donor could easily do so by giving a missed call to Dr. Rajkumar Eye Bank's dedicated phone number +91-8884018800, where they received many people coming forward to pledge their eyes.

They have now further initiated a drive where one can be an ambassador for sight by encouraging people in the community for eye donation. This initiative provides a one-hour training program to become an 'Eye Donation Crusader.'

42 deaths, 35 families yet to receive compensation

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

are attributed to improper handling of borewells, failure to adhere to safety measures, and unprofessional attempts to repair electrical issues. "During the fiscal year 2022-23, 290 people across Karnataka died from electric shocks, with Bengaluru accounting for 42 of these deaths. Additionally, 38 individuals were injured, and 106 animals also fell victim to electrical accidents. In the Bengaluru Urban District alone, 17 people lost their lives to electric shocks during this period."

Lethal negligence

Sources said that negligence in public practices is a major contributor to these incidents. Many accidents occur due to uncovered borewells or improper repairs attempted by unqualified individuals. The Central Electricity Authority's safety regulations mandate that no buildings or installations should be constructed beneath power transmission lines. Nevertheless, approximately 7,722 buildings in Bengaluru are situated either under or near these lines, violating safety guidelines.

Compensation for electric shock-related accidents includes Rs 5 lakh for fatalities, and Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh for partial or full disability. In cases where animals die from electric shocks, compensation of Rs 50,000 is provided to the owner. Despite the outlined compensation structure, only seven of the 42 deceased individuals have received a total of Rs 40 lakh in compensation. Many compensation claims are stalled due to incomplete documentation or lack

of proper filing, and no complaints have been lodged against the relevant officials for these lapses.

A BESCOM official said, "We have taken several steps to address electrical hazards, including replacing faulty power transmission lines. Live wires are being replaced with underground and aerial bunched cables, with 9,465 km of 11 KV overhead lines converted to underground cables and 412 km to aerial bunched cables. Similarly, 1,764 km of 9634 km high-tension lines have been upgraded to underground cables, and 7,870 km to aerial bunched cables. Regular inspections and replacements of old and damaged high-tension (HT) and low-tension (LT) lines are conducted to enhance safety."

Sources said that additional factors contributing to electric shocks include surges in electric current, falling wires during storms, contact with iron materials, leakage near poles or streetlights, and improper construction practices near power lines. These issues highlight the ongoing need for improved safety protocols and public awareness to prevent future accidents.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Jithin, R/o 1st Floor, House #361, 2nd A Main, Domlur Layout, Bengaluru-560071, have changed my name to Jithin Janardhanan

I, Sreejesh Nair S/o Sreekumar Nair Aged About 30 Years R/at No.292/09, Rainbow Towers, 2nd Floor, St.Anthony School Road, RM Nagar, B'luru-560016 have changed my name to Sreejesh Sreekumar Nair Vide Affidavit Dtd:29/08/2024 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K.

I, MOHAMED ZAFARULLA S/o Mohammed Zakaulla R/o No:- 12/2 A Street 2nd Cross Gopalapuram Magadi Road Bangalore 560023 have changed my name to MOHAMMED ZAFRULLA for all purposes

I, Syed Tauseer Syed Ayub R/o 180 1st Floor,6th Cross Ilyas Nagar Bangalore 560078 have changed my minor son's name from Syed Ahad to Abdul Ahad for all purposes.

I, Mohamed Zakaulla S/o Abdul Jabbar R/o No-12/2 A Street 2nd Cross Gopalapuram Magadi Road Bangalore 560023 Have changed my name to Mohammed Zakaulla for all Purposes

I Rakesh Kumar S, S/o G Sampangi Raju, R/o 35, 24 Main Rd, Manjunatha Colony, JP Nagar 2nd Phase, Blore-78, have changed my name to Rakesh Kumar S Raju for all future purposes.

I Raghunatha Sastry Pulla Panthula S/O, Satyanarayana R/o Sree Brindavanam, Beside Vijaya Ganapathi Devasthana, Opposite Ars Pu College, Police Station Road, Hariharapura, Chikkamagaluru - 577120 have changed my name to Raghunadha Sastry.

I, METHAB SRINIVAS (Old Name) D/o Ziaulla Khan, R/at No.82, 1st Main, 4th Cross, Mattadahalli, Bengaluru-560032 have changed my name to METHAB BEGUM (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 23/8/2024 Before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I **PUSHPA NARAYANASWAMY** W/O Vijay Kumar Malur Papanna,Resident at Vaishnavi Nilaya, Ward No 8, Chikka Marikamba Temple Street, Malur Town, Kolar District - 563 130, Have changed my name to **NAGA PUSHPA JANGAMAKOTE NARAYANASWAMY,** I will be called as Naga Pushpa Jangamakote Narayanaswamy for all purposes & Same as Sworn before **M.Jagannath,** Advocate & Notary, Malur vide affidavit dated 22/08/2024.

CHANGE OF NAME

I **VIJAYA KUMAR MALUR PAPANNA** S/O late R Papanna, Resident at Vaishnavi Nilaya, Ward No 8, Chikka Marikamba Temple Street, Malur Town, Kolar District - 563 130, Have changed my name to **VIJAY KUMAR MALUR PAPANNA,** I will be called as **VIJAY KUMAR MALUR PAPANNA** for all purposes & Same as Sworn before M.Jagannath, Advocate & Notary, Malur vide affidavit dated 22/08/2024.

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SHOPPING MART

Pesky call: HC asks petitioner to approach apt forum

Man was seeking directions from TRAI to prevent telemarketers from creating fake records

Rachana Ramesh
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Karnataka High Court has dismissed a petition seeking direction from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to take urgent measures to prevent telemarketers from creating fake records and including the names of telecom subscribers in the list of numbers to which they send pesky calls.

The petitioner Mohammed Dastagir also requested stringent punishment for such fraudulent practices.

Justice MGS Kamal, presiding over a single judge bench, dismissed the petition and granted the petitioner the liberty to approach the appropriate forum to seek adjudication of his grievances. The petitioner claimed that he had purchased a prepaid SIM card from an agent of Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited in July 2017 and had requested the authority to register his number under the 'Fully Blocked Category' to avoid receiving unwanted calls.

Despite this, the petitioner continued to receive unsolicited commercial communications (UCC), for which he raised complaints with Reliance Jio and received replies. On July 10, 2019, the petitioner received an email from Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) stating that he had opted to receive UCC from ONEXTEL MEDIA PVT LTD, which was done fraudulently. The petitioner issued legal notices to the respondents concerned, but no action was taken, prompting him to approach the court.

> **The petitioner was unable to point out any constitutional or contractual rights that had been breached by the respondents**
>
> –High Court observation

Man goes to court after getting calls despite blocking them

The court noted that the petitioner was unable to point out any constitutional or contractual rights that had been breached by the respondents, although he claimed that his right to privacy was violated by the unsolicited calls from ONEXTEL MEDIA PVT LTD. The respondents informed the court that the petitioner had given his consent on the telemarketer portal Multigames4U.biz on 13 February 2019, becoming a registered user, which is why the SMS was sent to his mobile.

Based on the petitioner's complaints, a penalty of Rs 25,000 was imposed on telemarketer M/s. Mgage India Pvt. Ltd. for misusing transactional bandwidth for promotional activities by sending SMS to the petitioner's telephone number. The respondents also submitted that the petitioner may institute proceedings seeking reliefs for breach of terms of contract or deficiency in service by the respondents, if any. Considering these factors, the court dismissed the petition.

BSY plea hearing postponed

Justice M Nagaprasanna of the High Court on Friday postponed the hearing on former Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa's petition, which aims to dismiss a case filed against him under the POCSO Act, until September 5.

The case involves accusations of sexual harassment against a minor.

Previously, Justice Nagaprasanna had considered Yediyurappa's petitions for anticipatory bail and extended his protection from arrest, permitting him to be present in court. During the hearing, the victim's lawyer demanded Yediyurappa's arrest and questioning, insisting on adequate time to present their arguments.

The POCSO case was registered on March 3, 2024, at the Sadashivanagar Police Station, following grave allegations against Yediyurappa. An FIR was lodged based on the complaint, and due to the seriousness of the accusations, the investigation was handed over to the CID. Yediyurappa complied with a notice issued by CID officials, attending court proceedings and providing his statement.

Yediyurappa has filed two separate petitions with the High Court, seeking to dismiss the case and requesting anticipatory bail. The court is expected to make a decision on these petitions on September 5.

₹75L loot recovered in 3 theft cases

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Three separate gold theft cases in the city have been solved, leading to the recovery of stolen jewellery worth over Rs 75 lakh.

KR Pura police arrested a woman accused of robbing women of gold ornaments on buses on August 14. Within 24 hours, police recovered 536 grams of gold jewelry, valued at Rs 40 lakh from various locations, including Araseekere. The suspect confessed to multiple thefts, with seven cases linked across different police stations in the city. She has been remanded in custody, and further investigations are ongoing.

In another case, Sanjaynagar police arrested three individuals involved in a robbery in AECS Layout. On May 10, while the complainant was at Manipal Hospital, the suspects broke into the house, stealing 405 grams of gold ornaments worth Rs 30.5 lakh. Acting on intelligence, the police first apprehended a suspect near Majestic Bus Stand on May 29. This led to the arrest of two accomplices, and on August 19, 155 grams of the stolen gold were recovered from a jewellery shop in Delhi. The suspects are believed to be involved in other similar thefts in the city and are currently in judicial custody.

KAUSHIK JN

Police officials display recovered gold jewellery at the Commissioner's office before a press conference on Friday

The Adugodi police also made a significant breakthrough by arresting two suspects accused of stealing 75 grams of gold jewelry worth Rs 5.61 lakh, along with four watches. The theft was reported on August 16 by the owner, who returned from out of town to find his home broken into. The suspects were apprehended soon after the complaint was filed, with the police seizing the two-wheeler used in the theft.

Food quality checks on 67 eateries

The Department of Food Safety initiated hygiene inspections at 753 locations across the state, including roadside food vendors, hotels, and restaurants. Within the BBMP jurisdiction, inspections were conducted at 19 locations in the east zone, eight in the south, 15 in the north, and 25 in the west. Officials reported that enforcement visits were carried out, and notices were issued, urging vendors to maintain proper hygiene and cleanliness. Statewide, a total of Rs 1,68,000 in fines was collected.

Earlier, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao announced that the Department of Food Safety will conduct a two-day campaign to raise awareness among the public about food safety and to curb unsafe food practices. He added that the public will soon be able to test the quality of the food they consume. To facilitate this, the government has decided to install 3,400 testing kits in hotels, restaurants, food parks, and other public places. The minister revealed that 1,000 kits have already arrived and will soon be available for public use.

Regarding food business licences, the state has set a target of 106,895, achieving 68% progress so far. The minister urged remaining food business operators to register and obtain licences, warning that legal action will be taken against those who fail to comply. A total of 385 food samples of fruits and vegetables were collected and analysed, out of which 266 samples were examined. Among them, 239 samples were deemed safe, while 27 were reported unsafe due to excessive pesticide residues and the presence of fungus. –BMB

Dog bites woman

A woman was injured in a stray dog attack in Banaswadi OMBR Layout. In a video shared on social media platform X, the Banaswadi attack was captured showing the dog approaching the woman, who was walking alone, before suddenly biting her. A man, seen near a house gate in the video, quickly intervenes and chases the dog away, preventing further injury. This incident, like many others, reflects the urgent need for measures to address the stray dog population in Bengaluru, which is estimated to be around 2.8 lakh, with thousands of dog bite cases being reported annually. –BMB

Couple on bike chased

Two unidentified individuals on a bike chased down a couple's car late Thursday night at 11:40 pm in Indiranagar. According to the police, the couple was returning from shopping in Indiranagar when two strangers approached them. Mainak, the complainant, reported that the attackers tried to snatch a gold chain from his wife, injuring her left hand in the process. The attackers also verbally abused them and injured Mainak's left hand with a sharp object. –BMB

HEALTH TIP: Avoid eating out at places where the food might have been sitting out for a long

Clear out stagnant water in and around your house to prevent mosquito proliferation

FEAR OF FLYING

If new technologies snarl your airline experience, here are old-school strategies to cope

Ten years ago I wrote a book titled "The End of Airports" about how digital technologies and commercial air travel were on a collision course. Earlier this summer, I was proved right.

In July, a cybersecurity software glitch grounded airplanes around the world. Airlines took weeks to get back to normal. Delta was particularly hard hit, with some 7,000 flights canceled and delays lasting well into August.

As an expert on air travel who contemplates flight from a humanistic and cultural studies perspective, I think the new technologies woven into air-travel management are a double-edged sword. While they enhance elements of safety and efficiency, they can also make the entire system more fragile and vulnerable.

The downsides of digital technology

To be fair, aviation depends on technology. Humans would never have gotten off the ground without it. But new technology can create new problems even as it solves old ones. The latest digital tech offers necessarily imperfect ways to manage a vast, intricate network of places, machines and people.

And as the computer systems get more fine-tuned and integrated, they also can result in catastrophic failures, precisely because of the connective nature of tech. And let's not even talk about the weather.

The past summer's software glitch event won't be the last time some unforeseen variable brings air travel to a halt. Fortunately, travelers don't have to depend solely on airport technology systems or our own smart devices for seamless travel. Here are six analog strategies that travelers can use to cope with air travel debacles:

Old-school flying suggestions

- Pack smart for potential delays. Make sure you have a carry-on that includes whatever you'd need for an unplanned overnight stay at a hotel – or worse, on an airport floor. Take Transportation Security Administration-approved toiletries and enough clothes so you can deal with a layover somewhere you didn't expect. And wear comfortable shoes.
- Be kind to airline employees and airport staff, who can't control delays or cancellations. Remember that no one airline employee can automatically fix the problem when a software malfunction happens or a freak storm grounds planes. But if you are kind and patient, an airline employee may just comp you a hotel room or give you a more generous rebooking arrangement. Also: It's just the humane thing to do.
- Purchase your tickets directly from airlines. It's not worth saving $20 or $50 on a ticket deal from a third-party vendor. When delays and cancellations happen, if you have such a ticket, the airline will have less interest in aiding you. Buying tickets directly from the airline will help you get back in the air quicker.
- Have a plan B. In the event that your connecting flight is canceled mid-trip, have you contacted someone you know in that city? Or have you researched hotels easily accessible from the airport? What would it take to get a comfortable spot for a night? A little homework can go a long way if you end up stranded.
- Bring healthy snacks and other supplies. It's smart to pack vitamins, zinc, hydration packets, a reusable water bottle, medications, hand sanitizer, or whatever helps bolster your health during a travel stint. If you get waylaid for a few hours or overnight, preplanning some self-care items can help you avoid contagious illnesses and general fatigue.
- Enjoy the airport. It's a fascinating place where so many people converge. If you're stuck at the airport for several hours, use that time to find interesting things in the concourses. You might discover art shows, a great bookstore, a yoga room or a movie theater. It can be tempting to just stand around the gate area and seethe. But it's more fun to move around the airport and explore what's there.

Christopher Schaberg, Arts & Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, The Conversation

MIRRORLIGHTS

Short bout of squats every 45 min can counter effects of prolonged sitting

Finding it hard to spare 30 minutes for a walk outside? A bout of squats every 45 minutes may help counter the effects of prolonged sitting, according to an expert on Friday. Taking to social media platform X.com, Dr. Sudhir Kumar from Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Hyderabad said "Interrupting prolonged sitting with squats (every 45 minutes) is more effective than (30-minute) walking in glycemic control".

Prolonged sitting is known to be a major risk factor for overweight, obesity, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, and cardiovascular diseases. Short bouts of squats may help counter these ill effects of prolonged sitting, which in some professions may extend up to 8-12 hours daily, or even more, Kumar said.

"Interrupting prolonged sitting with short, intermittent exercises ("exercise snacks") have been shown to reduce the risk of adverse health hazards (related to sedentary lifestyle)," the neurologist said, citing a study by Chinese researchers.

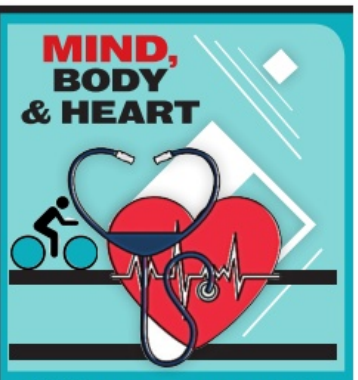
The study showed that "squatting interruptions had a more pronounced effect on glucose metabolism than walking interruptions".

Further, the team noted that the benefits observed were because of increased muscle activity intensity in the targeted muscle groups during frequent transitions from sitting to activity.

Several research have called the effects of long-term sitting similar to smoking. The sedentary behaviour is known to potentially increase the risk of many non-communicable diseases, including cardiometabolic disorders.

A recent study published in the medical journal The Lancet Global Health showed that every second adult in India or about 50 per cent is unfit and does not have sufficient physical activity. The study showed Indians fail to adhere to World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations for adequate physical activity.

"Even if you can't get out for walks (during your office hours), short bouts of squats every 45 minutes can have tremendous benefits on glucose status, body weight, and muscle strength," Kumar said. — IANS



All you need to know about...

Indoor air pollution

Dangerous air

Indoor air pollution is a bigger health risk than outdoor air pollution in India, and sometimes cities are cleaner than nearby villages where household pollution is higher, according to the country's two top policy experts.

Black carbon exposure

Addressing the India Clean Air Summit (ICAS) 2024, Principal Advisor, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Soumya Swaminathan said, "Studies done in Delhi have shown that women's average exposure to high levels of black carbon (women who are mostly at home) is as much as auto-rickshaw passengers going around outdoor exposed to the ambient air pollution in Delhi, resulting in high systolic blood pressure."

Household emissions

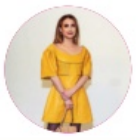
"Cities contribute less than 20 per cent to the overall state emissions, wherever they have been assessed, but household emissions predominate, ranging between 20 per cent and 40 per cent. Across the country, we are seeing that sometimes cities are cleaner than the surrounding villages where household air pollution predominates," she said at the summit organised by think-tank Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy. This builds a strong case for expanding the scope of India's National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), which currently focuses on non-attainment cities.

Threat of air pollution

Air pollution is a major threat to public health and contributes to a significant amount of morbidity as well as mortality. Apart from PM2.5 and PM10, short-lived climate pollutants such as black carbon, methane, ozone, and hydrocarbons have the potential to harm the environment and warm the atmosphere even more than CO2. Black carbon can cause chronic respiratory illnesses, lung cancer, emphysema, pneumonia, asthma, heart disease, and low birthweight.

—PTI

Role model— After Britney Spears' assistant suggested Emma Roberts play her in a feature adaptation of the singer's memoir "The Woman In Me", Roberts said that she's been preparing for at least 20 years. "I was like, I love her assistant," she said



BangaloreMirror | 13
Saturday, August 31, 2024
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Entertainment Industry Promotion

LIGHTS, CAMERA OR ACTION?

Malavika reveals she is also a behind-the-camera person

Malavika Mohanan is all set to enter the world of Bollywood, with Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's latest production Yudhra, with Siddhant Chaturvedi and Raghav Juyal in the lead.

Not many are aware that Malavika is the daughter of famous cinematographer KU Mohanan, who has shot films like Don, Talaash, Raees, Jab Harry Met Sejal and Andhadhun. Also, many would be unaware that before joining movies as an actor, Malavika had all the plans to get behind the camera as a cinematographer, or a director.

Now in an exclusive chat with ETimes, the actress opened up about that dream and if she plans to go back to it. She said, "Visual arts will always be my first love. I grew up being inspired by photography and cinematography. Even today, in my free time, I always prefer watching something. When I am sets, I'm always taking photographs and, and portraits of my co-actors. In my free time on sets, one will find me simply dabbling with the camera, just playing with it. "

" Yes, at one point in my life, I did think I would follow in my father's footsteps. But my journey took me elsewhere, and I really started enjoying that, and I still am! Right now, I'm in that headspace. However, in the future, you never know. If given a chance, I would love to direct too, someday. But as of now, I am grateful for all the work that is pouring in…I am loving it! I'm getting to work with some of the best directors in different industries in the country. And I have waited for a long time for this," she added. She is currently seen in Chiyaan Vikram led Pa Ranjith's Thangalaan. **Jigar Shah/ETimes**

Movie with a heart and soul

My Hero
3.5 RATING ★★★½☆
- **DIRECTOR** Avinash Vijaykumar
- **ACTORS** Master Vedic Kaushal, Djilali Rez-Kallah, Eric Roberts, Dattanna, Prakash Belawadi
- **CERTIFICATION** U
- **Duration** 141 minutes

My Hero, which has local and international actors, is based on a real incident that took place in Karnataka. Avinash Vijaykumar, who had basic training in theater and directorial courses, makes debut as a director in Sandalwood with the movie. Avinash has succeeded in proving that crisp screenplay and a good story are sufficient to draw the audiences to theaters. Though the movie has scope to have action scenes, the director has focused on the story and made actors stick to it.

The movie also explores places in Madhya Pradesh that were not explored by any Kannada movie till date. The movie begins in the US and comes to Maheshwar Fort and Ghat in Madhya Pradesh and finally culminates at a village in Chikkamagaluru district.

The movie begins with Eric (Eric Robert) coming in a car carrying a book - My Hero - to meet Gary (Djilali Rez-Kallah). The opening song - My Hero - is full of rhythm. The book is about Gary's experience during a trip to Maheshwar Ghat where he meets Vishwa (Vedic Kaushal), a guide. Gary comes to Maheshwar Ghat to offer pinda pradhanam to his late son. He meets Dattanna, the priest, for this purpose but the latter advises him to wait for a few days.

Meanwhile, Dattanna asks Vishwa to take Gary to important spots in and around Maheshwar Fort.

Gary and Vishwa become friends. Gary wants to know why Vishwa is working as a guide instead of going to school. He meets Arundati (Ankita Amar), who runs an NGO for the benefit of orphans. You have to watch this movie to know who Vishwa is and what made him work as a guide.

As far as the performances of actors goes, Vedic Kaushal walks away with all honours for his sterling performance. His dialogues have the potential to melt audiences' hearts. His innocent looks and dialogue delivery deserve a pat on the back. Dattanna, as a priest, Prakash Belawadi, as a Deputy Commissioner, Niranjan Deshpande, as a social activist, have provided good support. Djilali Rez-Kallah, as a father who lost his son and a volunteer with a good heart, has acted well. Venus Nagaraj Murthy has done a fantastic job behind the camera. It is worth a watch for all. **—Y Maheswara Reddy**

Violent attack on the senses

Pepe
2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆
- **DIRECTOR** Shreelesh S Nair
- **ACTORS** Vinay Rajkumar, Mayur Patel, Kaajal Kunder, Medini Kelamane, Naveen D Padil, Yash Shetty
- **CERTIFICATION** A
- **Duration** 126 minutes

The much-awaited and hyped movie Pepe is aimed at mass audiences who love to watch action-oriented movies with as many gory scenes as possible. Director Shreelesh S Nair has tried to focus on caste and untouchability - and it makes the audiences feel uncomfortable while watching this movie at theatres. The plot of the movie - upper caste people denying access to clean water for lower caste people - is far from convincing. Too many gory scenes work as a hurdle instead of adding value. It is true that expecting decent dialogues and emotional scenes from this movie is not fair as it got an A certificate from the Censor Board of Film Certification.

The movie begins with a murder. The next scene is Malpe, a local sand mafia leader, advising the priest to eliminate Rayappa (Naveen D Padil), a leader of downtrodden people. Rayappa's brother Guna (Mayur Patel) decides to look after his nephew Pradeep and sister-in-law Sunitha (Aruna Balraj). Pradeep (Vinay Rajkumar), also known as Pepe, wants to know why his father was killed. You have to watch the movie to know what happens to Pradeep and Guna.

As far as performances of the actors are concerned, Vijay Rajkumar has tried his best to showcase his acting skills in action scenes. The movie offers more action and few dialogues for him. Kajal Kunder has nothing to do except to appear in a few scenes. Mayur Patel has played a different role in the movie. Bala Rajwadi, Medini Kelamane, Yash Shetty, Aruna Balraj provide good support.

Some of the dialogues, especially the dialogue - we worship Goddess Saraswathi but we oppose our daughters pursuing higher studies - are good. The movie ends with an indication - to be continued - of a sequel to it. It is worth a watch only if you have the stomach for too much action. **—Y Maheswara Reddy**

All applause for Angelina

Pablo Larrain's biographical drama 'Maria' starring Angelina Jolie took the Venice Film Festival by storm with its world premiere, garnering a remarkable 8-minute standing ovation.

Several videos from the event went viral on social media.

Angelina turned heads with her appearance at the event on Thursday night.

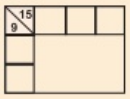
She wore a custom-made beige gown with a fur stole wrapped around.

At the event, Larrain and Jolie were in attendance alongside cast members Pierfrancesco Favino and Alba Rohrwacher.

After the screening, the crowd inside the Sala Grande was emotional and was even chanting Jolie's name. Jolie was taken by the response of the crown and was seen wiping away tears and at times turning her face away from the cheering as she was overcome by emotion. After Angelina got emotional, she was comforted by her Maria co-star Pierfrancesco Favino. Film's director Pablo Larrain walked down from the gallery to wave at the audience. The film is based on true events and tells the story of Maria Callas, one of the world's greatest opera singers. The film explores her tumultuous and tragic life, reimagined during her final days in Paris in the 1970s. **—ANI**

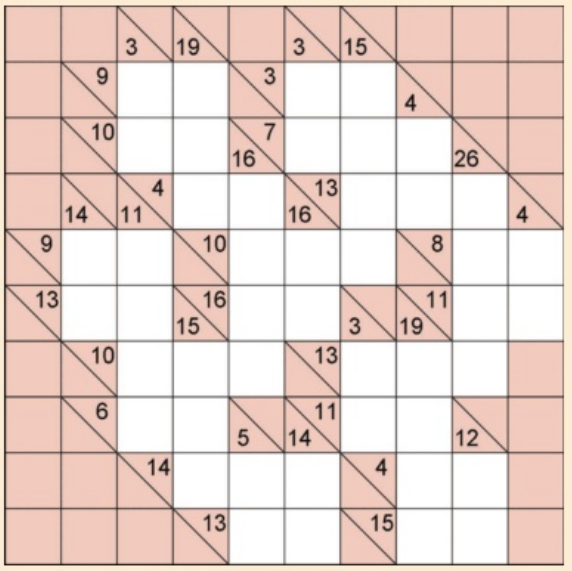
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

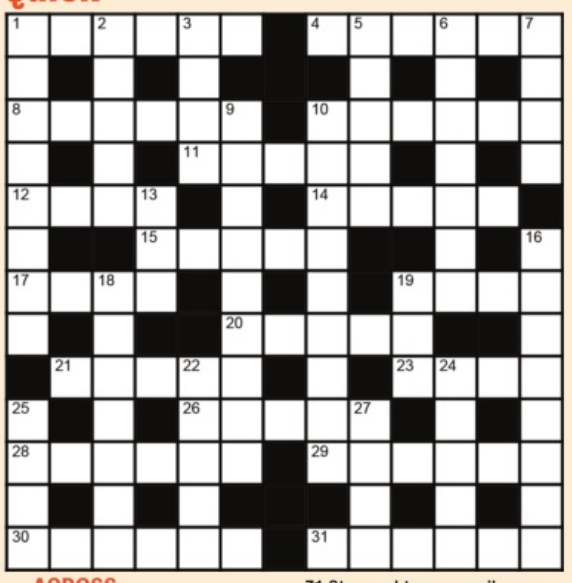


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Worrying about (6)
4 Be able to pay for (6)
8 Plenty, abounding or teeming (6)
10 Required (6)
11 Embed (5)
12 Car that can be hired (4)
14 Parties or festive gatherings (5)
15 Insect young (5)
17 Express in speech (4)
19 An old Russian ruler (4)
20 Loathe, hate or detest strongly (5)
21 Bend, crimp or twirl? (5)
23 Rambling story (4)
26 Stringed instrument (5)
28 Seven-legged crustacean (6)
29 Historic caves: Ajanta and ___ (6)
30 Martial art (4,2)
31 Stopped temporarily or hesitated (6)

DOWN

1 Ponder, meditate (8)
2 Take it easy (5)
3 Ex-Indian captain ___ Contractor (4)
5 Norse goddess of love (5)
6 Trials or travails (7)
7 Extinct bird (4)
9 Begged or requested pleadingly (9)
10 National park home to many tigers and elephants (9)
13 Kind (3)
16 Sot (8)
18 Inside information (slang) (3-4)
19 A score in rugby (3)
22 Jeer (5)
24 Declares or promises (5)
25 Part of a candle (4)
27 Russian gymnast __ Korbut (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

HKNHD CVKRNXJVR PU HVXF-DATO, PNH JIVR TIH HVXFD PU CVKRNXJATO.

Linemaro

Stand still, so I can pick you up

Mindchow

The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do

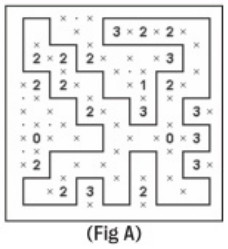
Joke of the day

Patient: Doc, I have diarrhea and it won't go away!
Doc: Did you try using a lemon?
Patient: Yes I did, but when I removed it, it started again

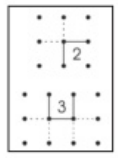
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

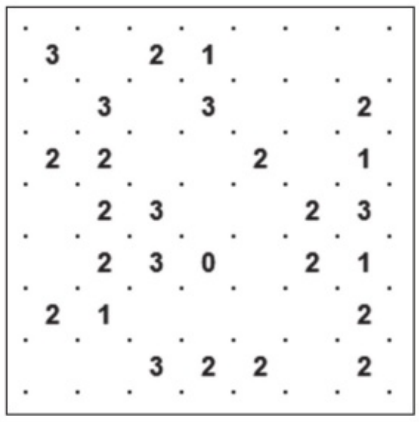


(Fig B) Not Allowed

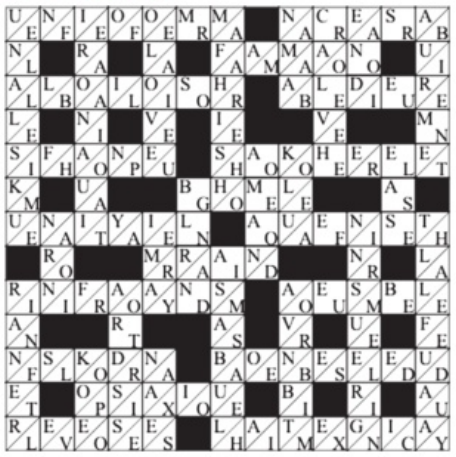
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



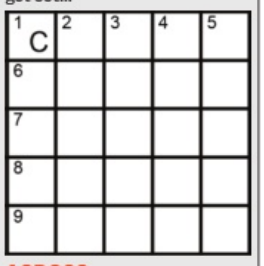
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 La Cas; 6 He rap;
7 Up gen; 8 Am Leo;
9 Bries

DOWN

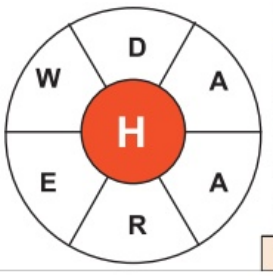
1 Mr Cub; 2 Liana;
3 Le Pap; 4 Here's;
5 Gesso

Mensapuzzle

Solve this dingbat:

ABOUT

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		6		9				
				7	5	8		
	5	7				4		6
	3		1		7			
1	4			8			3	2
			4		3		8	
6		3				2	7	
		9	5	6				
				3		1		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 7

3 4 4 4

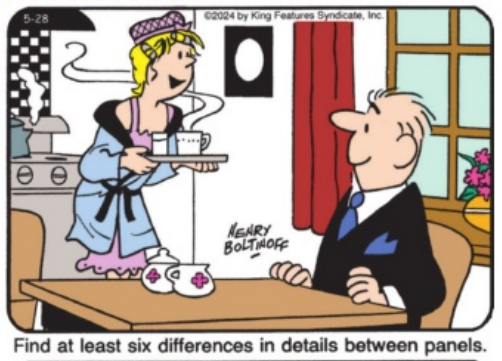
Medium = 14

7 7 9 9

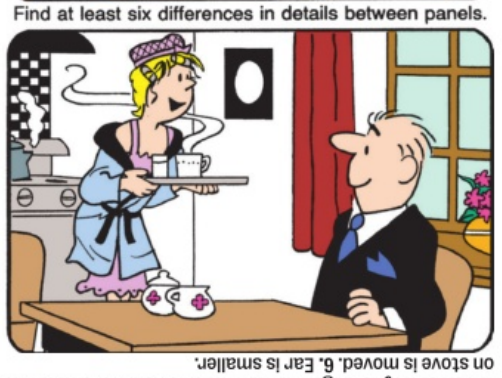
Hard = 10

1 6 9 4

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



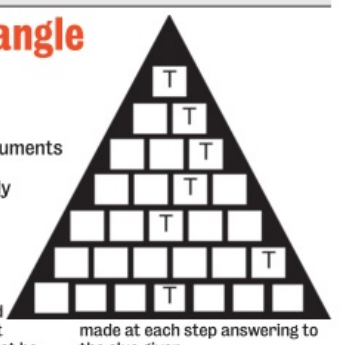
Differences: 1. Hand is not showing. 2. Man's shoulders are wider. 3. Tray is longer. 4. Handkerchief is different. 5. Knob on stove is moved. 6. Ear is smaller.

Riddler

Sue is taking Freya to playgroup. If she travels at 30mph, she'll arrive on time. If she travels 15 mph faster, she'll get there eight minutes earlier. How far away is she?

Alpha triangle

1 Tonne, abbr.
2 tu Brute ...
3 Collection
4 Permits
5 Old stringed instruments
6 End up
7 Moves very rapidly

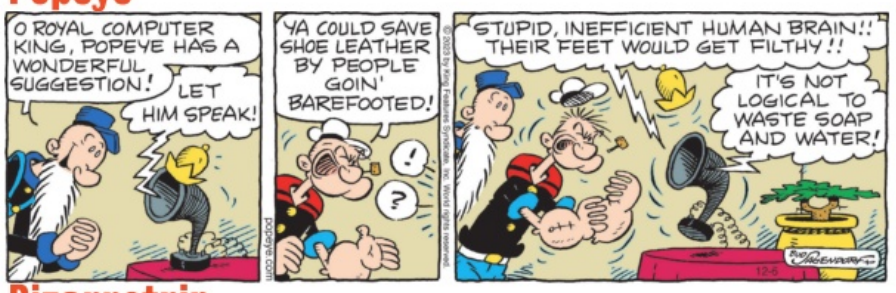


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

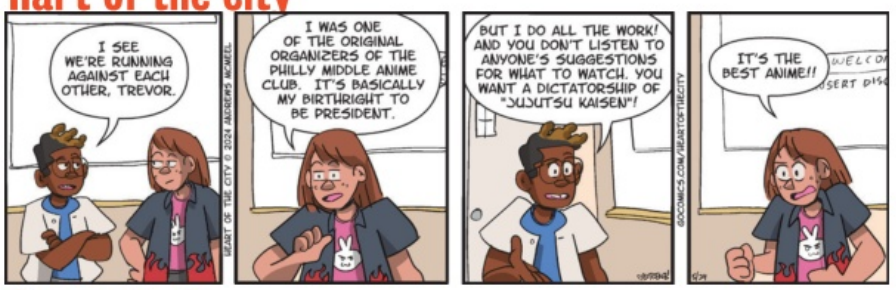

O ROYAL COMPUTER KING, POPEYE HAS A WONDERFUL SUGGESTION!
LET HIM SPEAK!
YA COULD SAVE SHOE LEATHER BY PEOPLE GOIN' BAREFOOTED!
!
?
STUPID, INEFFICIENT HUMAN BRAIN!! THEIR FEET WOULD GET FILTHY!!
IT'S NOT LOGICAL TO WASTE SOAP AND WATER!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

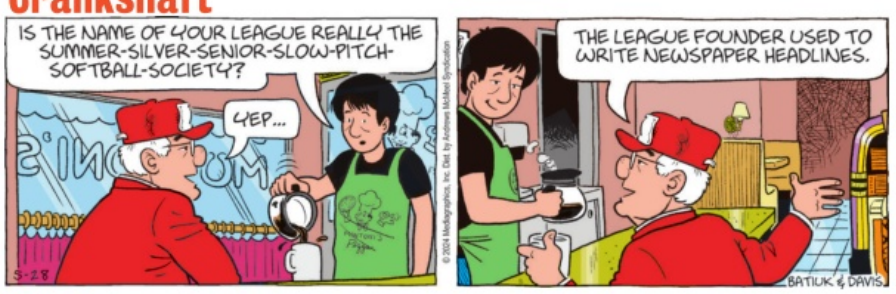
Diamond Lil

HEY, SURLI, SET A REMINDER FOR ME TO WEAR PANTS
ISN'T IT A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
LOOK DOWN, CAPTAIN UNDEROOS
©2024 creators.com 5/28
www.creators.com

Hart of the city


I SEE WE'RE RUNNING AGAINST EACH OTHER, TREVOR.
I WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL ORGANIZERS OF THE PHILLY MIDDLE ANIME CLUB. IT'S BASICALLY MY BIRTHRIGHT TO BE PRESIDENT.
BUT I DO ALL THE WORK! AND YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ANYONE'S SUGGESTIONS FOR WHAT TO WATCH. YOU WANT A DICTATORSHIP OF "JUJUTSU KAISEN"!
IT'S THE BEST ANIME!!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@DCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


IS THE NAME OF YOUR LEAGUE REALLY THE SUMMER-SILVER-SENIOR-SLOW-PITCH-SOFTBALL-SOCIETY?
YEP...
THE LEAGUE FOUNDER USED TO WRITE NEWSPAPER HEADLINES.
5-28
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may be more creative today; you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. You may also be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. Lovebirds may likely get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel peace in the mind; messy situations are now under control. You may be able to make a proper balance in expenditures and earnings, which may increase your savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking; it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short temper. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless stuff; it may affect your savings. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics; otherwise, they may break up.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today is a good day. In the business, you may get new clients, which will be helpful in the growth in terms of profits. In domestic life, you must avoid hiding anything from your spouse; otherwise, it will create some gap between your relationship. Singles are likely to find their good match. Job seekers may be likely to get a new job, and there are chances of promotions in their current job.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, with the help of your strong network, you may implement your business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. You may also have harmony in your domestic life; there may be good understanding between you and your spouse.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may plan to visit some religious place to find peace of mind. You may donate some amount to charity or a spiritual place. People around you may get help and support from you in terms of financial or moral support. You may enjoy every moment with satisfaction and patience.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may have a dull feeling. You are advised to control your short-tempered nature. Your focus is tested many times; you should try to avoid scattering towards your goals. So it is advised not to invest in worthless stuff. Lovebirds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics. It is advised to avoid overnight travel and come back home on time.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may make new plans for business, and your colleagues may be with you to implement your plans. You may recover your stuck money from your clients, which may boost liquidity in the business. After late evening, you may have some anxiety that may affect your sound sleep.

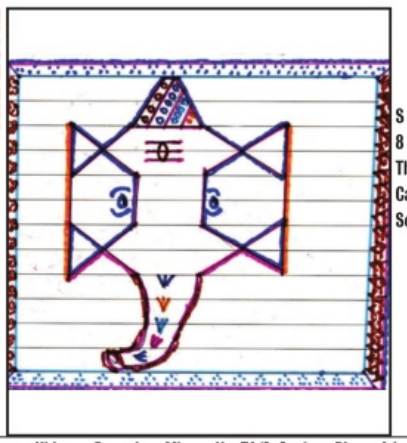
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you have control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Decisions in legal matters may come in your favour. Your boss may be happy because of your hard work and dedication; you may get new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Singles may find their soulmate.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may be happy; you may plan to buy some creative stuff, which may improve your lifestyle. You may also spend on your friends and family members. You may plan to make investments in assets. Singles may find a good match, and lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be seeking peace of mind. The moon's blessings may help you to focus on yourself. You are advised to avoid investments in property and other assets. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life, but it is advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse. Disputes with the business partner are likely to be resolved.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon; your destiny is likely to be with you. You may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related travel. Some good news may come from your sibling(s). You may also plan to renovate your house or office using your creativity.

KIDZONE



S Tanmayi, 8 Years, The New Cambridge School

R Akshay, 13 Years, Jubilee School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$= 2^{0.2} \times 2^{0.8} \times 2^{1.8} \times 2^{0.4} = 2^{3x}$
$= 2^{10.5} = 2^{3x}$
$= 3x = 10.5 = (21/2)$
$= x = (7/2) = 3.5$

STRIKE OUT

U	N	I	F	O	R	M	■	A	C	E	R	B	■	■
N	R	■	L	■	A	M	M	A	N	■	U	■	■	■
A	B	O	L	I	S	H	■	A	L	D	E	R	■	■
L	■	N	■	V	■	E	■	V	■	N	■	■	■	■
I	N	■	L	A	Y	■	E	■	O	■	■	■	■	■
I	H	O	P	E	■	S	A	K	E	R	E	T	■	■
K	■	U	■	G	H	E	E	■	S	■	■	■	■	■
E	N	T	A	I	L	■	O	A	F	I	S	H	■	■
I	N	R	O	A	D	S	■	O	U	S	E	L	■	■
N	■	R	■	A	■	R	■	U	■	F	■	■	■	■
F	L	O	R	A	■	B	O	B	S	L	E	D	■	■
E	■	P	I	X	I	E	■	I	■	I	■	A	■	■
R	E	E	S	E	■	L	A	T	E	N	C	Y	■	■

QUICK

K	U	N	G	F	U	■	P	A	U	S	E	D	■	■
C	W	■	F	■	G	■	■	■	W	■	R	■	■	■
I	S	O	P	O	D	■	E	L	L	O	R	A	■	■
W	■	D	■	C	E	L	L	O	■	V	■	K	■	■
T	W	I	S	T	■	O	■	Y	A	R	N	■	■	■
E	■	O	■	A	B	H	O	R	■	■	U	■	■	■
T	A	L	K	■	E	■	R	■	T	S	A	R	■	■
A	■	L	A	R	V	A	■	■	■	L	■	D	■	■
T	A	X	I	■	T	■	G	A	L	A	S	■	■	■
I	■	A	■	I	N	L	A	Y	■	E	■	O	■	■
G	A	L	O	R	E	■	N	E	E	D	E	D	■	■
O	■	E	■	A	■	■	R	■	■	R	■	O	■	■
C	A	R	I	N	G	■	A	F	F	O	R	D	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
out-and-about

RIDDLER
12 miles away

QUOTE UNCODE
Truth persuades by teaching, but does not teach by persuading.

FAST FIVE

C	L	A	S	S
R	A	P	H	E
U	N	P	E	G
M	A	L	E	O
B	I	E	R	S

BULL'S EYE
ahead, hard, hare, head, hear, heard, herd, rhea, WARHEAD

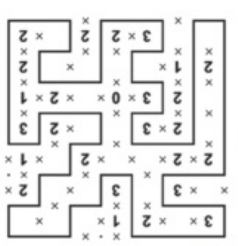
SUDOKU

8	2	6	3	9	4	5	1	7
4	9	1	6	7	5	8	2	3
3	5	7	2	1	8	4	9	6
9	3	8	1	2	7	6	5	4
1	4	5	9	8	6	7	3	2
6	1	3	8	4	9	2	7	5
7	6	2	4	5	3	9	8	1
2	7	9	5	6	1	3	4	8
5	8	4	7	3	2	1	6	9

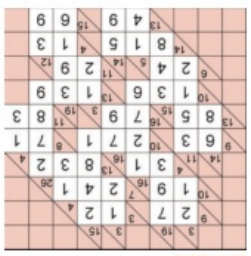
ALPHA TRIANGLE
T, Et, Set, Lets, Luters, Result, Hurtles.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 3 − 4 + 4 = 7
Medium
7 + 9 + 7 − 9 = 14
Hard
6 + 9 − 4 − 1 = 10

LOOP



KAKURO



Volume No 17, Issue No 035 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/22411 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

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